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WIRTHLIN POLL FINDS THAT MOST AMERICANS SUPPORT A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO DEFEND MARRIAGE

Communities of Color Lead the Way In Support of a Marriage Amendment on a Day When Marriage Goes On Trial in Massachusetts Courts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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WASHINGTON, DC – A national Wirthlin poll released today by the Alliance for Marriage shows that a majority of Americans favor a constitutional amendment to protect marriage as the union of a man and a woman from lawsuits being filed by activist lawyers in courts across the United States.

The release of these findings comes on a day when the state supreme court of Massachusetts will hear oral argument in Goodridge v. Massachusetts Department of Health – a case that activist lawyers intend to use as a foundation for constitutional challenges to all of America's marriage laws. For example, the Boston Bar Association has openly called for "federal constitutional claims" to be brought against all state and federal marriage laws in the aftermath of a likely victory in this case by early summer.

One of the most important findings of this new Wirthlin poll is that overwhelming numbers of Hispanics (63%) and African-Americans (62%) support a constitutional amendment to protect marriage from such lawsuits. This is ironic since most of the legal arguments in the Goodridge case -- and similar suits filed in New Jersey and Indiana -- are based upon comparisons between the marriage laws of contemporary America and racist laws enforcing legal segregation and discrimination in the South.

Additional high-resolution color graphics from this national Wirthlin poll (in multiple formats) are now available for downloading at: www.allianceformarriage.org

The findings of this national Wirthlin poll have a margin of error of 3.1% and are based upon a survey of 1,000 American adults conducted last month by Wirthlin Worldwide.

The Alliance for Marriage is a non-partisan, multicultural coalition whose Board of Advisors includes Rev. Walter Fauntroy -- the former DC Delegate who organized the March on Washington for Martin Luther King Jr. -- as well as other civil rights and religious leaders, and national legal experts.

www.allianceformarriage.org

